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UTILITY PATENT APPLICATION TRANSMITTAL

(Only for new nonprovisional applications under 37 CFR 1.53(b))

Attorney Docket No. 503.30414C14 Total Pages

First Named Inventor or Application Identifier

KATO, et al.

Express Mail Label No.

APPLICATION ELEMENTS

See MPEP chapter 600 concerning utility patent application contents.

1. Fee: \$1804.00

Please charge any shortages in the fees or credit any overpayments thereof to the deposit account of Antonelli, Terry, Stout & Kraus, Deposit Account No. 01-2135.

2. Specification Total Pages 28

3. Drawing(s) (35 USC 113) Total Sheets 1

4. Oath or Declaration Total Pages 2

a. Newly executed (original or copy)

b. Copy from a prior application (37 CFR 1.63(d)) (for continuation/divisional with Box 17 completed) [Note Box 5 below]

i. DELETION OF INVENTOR(S) Signed statement attached deleting inventor(s) named in the prior application, see 37 CFR 1.63(d)(2) and 1.33(b).

5. Incorporation By Reference (useable if Box 4b is checked) The entire disclosure of the prior application, from which a copy of the oath or declaration is supplied under Box 4b, is considered as being part of the disclosure of the accompanying application and is hereby incorporated by reference therein.

ADDRESS TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Box Patent Application
Washington, DC 20231

6. Microfiche Computer Program (Appendix)

7. Nucleotide and/or Amino Acid Sequence Submission (if applicable, all necessary)

a. Computer Readable Copy

b. Paper Copy (identical to computer copy)

c. Statement verifying identity of above copies

ACCOMPANYING APPLICATION PARTS

8. Assignment Papers (cover sheet & document(s))

9. 37 CFR 3.73(b) Statement Power of Attorney (when there is an assignee)

10. English Translation Document (if applicable)

11. Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)/PTO-1449 Copies of IDS Citations

12. Preliminary Amendment

13. Return Receipt Postcard (MPEP 503) (Should be specifically itemized)

14. Small Entity Statement filed in prior application. Statement(s) Status still proper and desired

15. Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) (if foreign priority is claimed)

16. Other: Claim for Priority

17. If a CONTINUING APPLICATION, check appropriate box and supply the requisite information:

Continuation Divisional Continuation-in-part (CIP)

of prior application No: 09,177,495

18. CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS

 Customer Number or Bar Code Label

020457

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11. SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

NAME

Alan E. Schiavelli

SIGNATURE

DATE

December 16, 1999

REG. NO.

32,087

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): KATO, et al.

Filed: December 16, 1999

For: VACUUM PROCESSING APPARATUS AND OPERATING
METHOD THEREFOR

Group:

Examiner:

CLAIM FOR PRIORITY

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

December 16, 1999

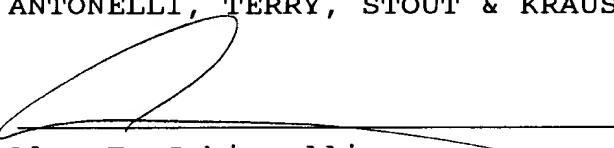
Sir:

Under the provisions of 35 USC §119 and 37 CFR §1.55,
Applicants hereby claim the right of priority based on
Japanese Patent Application No. 2-225321, filed August 29,
1990.

The certified copy of the above-referred-to Japanese
Patent Application was filed on August 29, 1991 in prior
application Serial No. 07/751,951, filed August 29, 1991.

Respectfully submitted,

ANTONELLI, TERRY, STOUT & KRAUS, LLP


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